# COMMANDERS DIGEST

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## Sec. McNamara Reaffirms U.S. Policy on Southeast Asia

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has reaffirmed U.S. policy of limited objectives in Southeast Asia.

In a Pentagon press conference Feb. 24, Mr. McNamara stated the major U.S. objective in Vietnam is the assurance that the people of South Vietnam have the right to shape their own destiny.

"We are not seeking to destroy the government of North Vietnam," the Defense Secretary said, "and certainly we are not seeking to destroy the people of North Vietnam.

"Nor are we seeking bases from which we can carry out attacks on Red China," Mr. McNamara said.

The Defense Secretary said the U.S. is not seeking "to establish relationships with South Vietnam in terms of which they will be our military ally, or terms of which they will provide us permanent military bases on the land mass of Southeast Asia."

McNamara also reviewed objectives in the bombing of Vietnam.

- To raise the morale of the South Vietnamese;
- To reduce the level of infiltration from the North to the South;
- To make clear to North Vietnam's political leaders that they will have to pay a price for continued aggression.

## President Sends Birthday 'Well Done' To Seabees, Navy Civil Engineers

President Johnson has honored the Seabees, celebrating their 25th anniversary, and the officers of the Navy Civil Engineer Corps, celebrating their 100th anniversary, with a "well done."

In a Presidential message, Mr. Johnson stated that throughout their history, "the Seabees and Navy Civil Engineer Corps officers have responded with a 'Can Do' to every demand placed upon them for support of United States and allied forces around the world.

"In today's struggle for freedom, they continue to serve our nation with courage, skill and dedication.

"They have earned a 'Well Done' from all their countrymen."

*AIRLIFT VISITOR—Gen. Howell M. Estes Jr. (left), Commander of the Military Airlift Command, is greeted by Lt. Gen. Fred M. Dean, Deputy Commander in Chief, U.S. Strike Command, upon Gen. Estes' arrival at MacDill AFB for a visit to Strike Command Headquarters.*

## New 'Freedom Share' Bonds To Be Issued After May 1

A new type of Savings Bond called Freedom Shares will be offered after May 1, President Johnson has announced.

The new bonds, which will be available only to those who participate in the payroll savings plan for purchase of Series E Bonds, will be issued in denominations of $25, $50, $75 and $100. Purchase prices will be $20.25, $40.50, $60.75 and $81.00 respectively.

Freedom Shares have a maturity of four and one-half years, earning 4.74 percent interest when held to maturity. They are not redeemable until held one year.

One Freedom Share may be purchased along with each Series E Bond of an equal value. Maximum face value of Freedom Shares purchased is limited to $1,350 annually for each individual.

The new bonds will be available for two years or for the duration of the Vietnam war, whichever is the longer.

# Washington Memos

TOTAL NUMERICAL STRENGTH of armed forces was 3,358,853 on Jan. 31, 1967, based on preliminary reports. This is 24,575 increase from Dec. 31, 1966, combined 3,334,278 strength. Figures represent full-time regular and reserve on continuous active duty and officer candidates including academy cadets and midshipmen.

**EXERCISE BRIGHT EYE gets underway in mid-March with air and naval forces from six NATO countries under CINC Allied Forces Northern Europe. Maneuver is sub-divided into three separate phases and will last until April 11. Purpose is to test communications of North Sea countries during rescue efforts. Forces from Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom and the United States will participate.**

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL has been presented to Lt. Gen. David Wade on retirement. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell made the presentation. Lt. Gen. William B. Kieffer has succeeded Gen. Wade as commander of SAC's 8th Air Force, with headquarters at Westover AFB, Mass.

**CARRIER U.S.S. ESSEX has been awarded Battle Efficiency "E" for antisubmarine warfare carriers on duty with U.S. Atlantic Fleet. It was first time that Essex has been awarded Navy's coveted "E". Special awards were earned by carrier's communications, air and medical departments.**

RANDOLPH AFB, TEX., has been selected for a worldwide Personnel Systems Conference, March 28-30. Attending will be representatives directly engaged in personnel data systems activities at major command headquarters.

COAST GUARD, UNDER new Department of Transportation, will take over Great Lakes Pilotage Administration. All regulations, orders, licenses and privileges issued by former administration will continue in full force and effect.

**COMPUTERIZED COMMUNICATION SYSTEM linking 15 Army installations with Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service in Washington, D.C., has been installed to help handle current movement volume of about 500,000 troops a month.**

ARMY'S NEWEST FAST light observation helicopter OH-6A has been officially named "Cayuse" after the Cayuse Indian war horse. Credit for name went to Paul J. Carpenter, director of Systems, U.S. Army Aviation Materiel Laboratories, Ft. Eustis, Va.

**EXPERT ARTILLERYMEN from Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps service schools gathered at Ft. Sill's Army Artillery and Missile School March 1-3 for an Artillery Instructors' Conference to update senior instructors on latest trends in gunnery, tactics and target acquisition. Prominent among topics of discussion was Vietnam and artillery's role in counterinsurgency warfare.**

MILITARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT and Terminal Service has set a new record of 3.4 million military passengers moved during the first half of fiscal 1967, a 30 percent increase over a comparable period in last fiscal year. Freight traffic showed an 8 percent increase with 12.8 million short tons and personal property (including household goods) a 12 percent increase at 626,900 tons.

**PREPARATORY SCHOOL scholarship has been created by Braniff International Airways in memory of Gen. Frank M. Andrews. Annual one-year scholarship will be awarded through Falcon Foundation to a young man motivated to attend Air Force Academy and dedicated to an Air Force career.**

**AVIATION MATERIEL COMMAND Commander Brig. Gen. Howard F. Schiltz will be assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Materiel Command in Washington, D.C., May 1. Gen. Schiltz will be replaced at his St. Louis command by Maj. Gen. John Norton, commander, First Cavalry Division.**

MARINE CORPS RESERVE Civic Action Fund for Vietnam, sponsored jointly by Marine Reservists and CARE Inc., recently exceeded $423,000, according to Marine Corps officials.

**AN AIR FORCE selection board is scheduled to convene May 23 to recommend warrant officers on active duty for temporary promotion to grades CWO, W-3, and CWO, W-4, during FY68. Those eligible must have three years in grade on or before June 30, 1968.**

OBLIGATED TOUR OFFICERS on active Army duty may now extend obligated tour once for any period from 1-24 months inclusive. This extends current regulations, due to expire June 30, 1967, that allow 12, 18 or 24 months' extension. Applications will continue to be submitted under current regulations until revision has been made.

**AN INCREASE OF 2,000 regular Marine Corps officers on active duty list has been approved by Secretary of Defense, according to Headquarters Marine Corps. Marine officials stated this increase will not raise total number of active duty officers authorized, but will establish number of regular Marine officers at a ceiling of 12,500. Headquarters Marine Corps stated that reserve officers, both active and inactive, will now have a better opportunity to obtain regular commissions.**

**COMMANDERS DIGEST**

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# Gen. McConnell Cites Role Of Airpower in Vietnam

Without the use of airpower in Vietnam "it would have been impossible to turn the tide in our favor," Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell said following a 10-day visit to Southeast Asia.

The general said this view is shared by numerous Army officers in responsible positions, from Gen. William Westmoreland on down.

Gen. McConnell said: "When I speak of airpower, I am speaking not only of the Air Force and all its combat and support elements, but also of the air arms of the other services as well as of the rapidly growing Air Force of the Republic of South Vietnam."

While on his trip, Gen. McConnell said he was impressed by the limitless dedication and ingenuity exhibited by U.S. servicemen in Vietnam, regardless of their job and age. He was particularly pleased with the performance of America's youth fighting in Southeast Asia. "They are the real representatives of our youth," the general emphasized.

Airpower has become a decisive factor in local aggression and limited war, according to Gen. McConnell.

He explained: "With the lessons we have learned in Southeast Asia and with the lessons we are teaching the Communists, we have every reason to hope that we will be able to deter and, if necessary, defeat any future actions of aggression, no matter where and when and how the Communists may try to strike again."

Operationally, the Air Force chief said, "The Air Force, in close cooperation with the other services, is accomplishing far more than has ever been expected."

He said the cooperation between the services is outstanding.

# National Safety Council Gives Army Top Honor

National Safety Council's Award of Honor, highest accorded for accident reduction efforts, has been won by Army for the 20th time in the past 23 years.

The award was presented by the council's president, Howard Pyle, to Army Secretary Stanley R. Resor in a Pentagon ceremony.

Year-to-year safety improvement is the basis for the award.

Army's accomplishment is attributed to recognition of the importance of safety management functions and through vigorous application of accident prevention measures.

*MEDAL OF HONOR—Secretary of the Navy Paul Nitze congratulates Capt. Harvey C. Barnum Jr., after presenting him with the Medal of Honor at the Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.*

# Marine Captain Wins Medal of Honor For Heroism As Forward Observer

A Marine artillery officer who took command of a rifle company during a heavy fire fight with North Vietnamese units last December became the fourth Marine to be awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in the Southeast Asian conflict.

Captain Harvey Curtiss Barnum Jr., was on temporary duty from Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor, as a forward observer with H Company, 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines, when he took command of the company after its commander fell mortally wounded.

Awarded the nation's highest medal for valor at ceremonies at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., on Feb. 27, Capt. Barnum was credited with reorganizing the heavily hit company, "rallying and giving encouragement to all units," while reorganizing the company and replacing key personnel before leading the company's attack on enemy positions "in the face of deadly fire."

"His sound and swift decisions and his obvious calm served to stabilize the badly decimated units and his gallant example as he stood exposed repeatedly to point out targets, served as an inspiration to all," according to the Medal of Honor citation.

Currently finishing his tour of duty at the Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor, Capt. Barnum was further cited for his use of two armed helicopters against a heavily entrenched enemy while directing one platoon in a successful counterattack on key North Vietnamese positions.

## Top Level Reassignments Set for April in Navy

Four Navy admirals will receive new assignments during April in a series of top-level changes of command announced by the Navy Department.

Vice Admiral Waldemar F. A. Wendt, currently Deputy Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, will take over as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans and Policy, relieving Vice Admiral Andrew McBee Jackson, who will be reassigned as Commander, Eastern Sea Frontier and senior member, U.S. Military Staff Committee at the United Nations in New York.

Adm. Jackson will replace Vice Admiral John S. McCain Jr., who will be promoted to Admiral and relieve retiring Admiral John S. Thach as Commander - in - Chief, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe.

Taking VAdm. Wendt's post with the Atlantic Fleet will be Vice Admiral Frederick L. Ashworth, who is currently serving as Commander of the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

## Navy Value Engineers Save $6.5 Million in 1966

Value engineers at the Navy's Aviation Supply Office in Philadelphia have been credited with saving the Navy an estimated $6.5 million during 1966.

Organized under a Defense Department cost reduction program a few years ago, the Navy's ASO value engineers are graduate engineers who have specialized in electrical, chemical and mechanical engineering.

The largest single VE savings at ASO last year was an estimated $3.8 million after it was discovered that life rafts were being disposed of prematurely, based on out-dated standards of deterioration in storage. The Aviation Supply Office also saved an estimated $550,000 by reworking pilots' helmets instead of buying new ones.

*SWEARING IN—Phil G. Goulding (left) receives the oath of office as Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) from Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara. Mr. Goulding has previously served as deputy assistant.*

## Air Force 'Dragon-Ships' Set Records in Vietnam

Dragon-ship crews of the Air Force's 14th Air Commando Wing in Vietnam continued their record-breaking operations in January, including 27,000 accident-free flying hours.

AC-47 crews set records for total 7.62mm ammunition fired and total numbers of flares dropped, breaking records that had been established in October, November and December.

January statistics show that gunships fired almost 2.2 million rounds of ammunition, almost doubling the number fired in October. Nearly 11,000 flares were dropped during January, also doubling the October figure.

## First Cavalry Div. Praises Army Nurses in Vietnam

Army nurses in Vietnam have received praise from the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) for care given to division members.

The divison message stated: "Their ability in the medical profession is unquestionable; the boost in morale they give the wounded and ill cavalryman is immeasurable."

## AF, FAA Schedule Study Of Supersonic Flight Aids

The Air Force and Federal Aviation Agency have scheduled a two-year program to examine the adequacy of navigational aids, radio communications and air traffic control radar at altitudes where supersonic aircraft will fly.

During the evaluation, expected to begin in July, about 100 transcontinental high and low altitude flights will be made.

The flights will be made to collect information on the suitability of present ground equipment for controlling and navigating aircraft at 40-70,000 feet.

An Air Force crew flying a U-2 high altitude research aircraft equipped with special instruments will collect data at the high altitudes. Simultaneously, a C-135 jet of the FAA will fly the same routes across the U.S. at altitudes below 40,000 feet.

Officials said the data also will be useful in determining whether changes are needed in current flight inspection techniques, equipment and procedures.

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